

will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. Major Eddie Whitehead, a respected Vietnam veteran who proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps for 28 years, will be laid to rest today among other great American heroes at Arlington National Cemetery. On February 25, 2005 Major Whitehead lost his battle with cancer, and all who knew and loved him will miss him, including his wife Bonnie, son Eddie Jr., daughters MitziLynn Keegan and Christian Thijm, sister Mitzi Dattres, and grandchildren Derek and Casey Jene. Let us pause to remember him and thank an American hero.

IN MEMORY OF OFFICER JAMES
DANIEL JONES

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I pay tribute today to the life of James Daniel Jones. James was a man of great integrity and character, who honorably served both his country and his community.

James passed away on May 10, 2005 at the age of 75. He was born in Minden, Louisiana, but in 1957 made his home in Barstow, California, where he resided until his passing. James married Louvern Redwell in 1953, and they had seven children, including my good friend Brian Jones.

James honorably served our country throughout his life. He was drafted into the United States Army in 1951 and served for 2 years and was honorably discharged. He went on to spend 32 years as a civil employee of the U.S. Marine Corps.

In addition to serving his country, James also served the people of his community. He volunteered at the Mojave Valley Senior Citizen Center and provided transportation for the sick and the elderly. He also was active in the lives of the youth in the community, as an East Barstow Little League coach. He also had a deep relationship with Christ, and was an active member of the Union Missionary Baptist Church.

James was preceded in death by his parents, Eli and Frelove Jones; his brother, Andrew Jones; and his three sisters, Donnie Jones, Loreen Stewart and Ella Mae Andrews.

He is survived by his beloved and dear wife of 52 years, Louvern Jones; his sister, Mary Helen Smith; his brother, Eddie Jones; and his seven children, Loretta Johnson, Shirley Sherrod, Donny Jones, Donie Elliott, Jennifer Jones-Scott, Vivian Brooks and Brian Jones. He is also survived by twelve grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to pay tribute to James Jones, a man who improved the lives of those he knew. James will be missed by many in his community, but he will certainly not be forgotten. He leaves behind him a legacy of caring and compassion, of unselfish dedication to his community and his country.

TRIBUTE TO JENNY PHILLIPS

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to pay tribute to a woman who has made an incredible difference in the lives of my fellow West Virginians. Jenny Phillips has served honorably as the West Virginia USDA Rural Development Director, and is retiring with a record of accomplishment that deserves our thanks and praise. Our State has many assets, as well as many needs. Jenny has a unique ability to bring people together for a common cause, to bring the resources of the Federal Government to partner with communities to solve problems and build for the future. Whether it was basic necessities such as water and sewer lines and affordable housing, or visionary projects such as high-speed internet access to bring health care, education and high-tech jobs to rural areas, Jenny delivered for West Virginia. We are taught to always leave a place better than we found it. Jenny Phillips has been the embodiment of those values in her life and career. All West Virginians and Americans thank her for her exemplary service and send our sincere best wishes for her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MIHAN LEE

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mihan Lee, an 11th-grader who lives in my Congressional district and attends Georgetown Day School. Recently, she competed against nearly 5,400 middle and high school students nationwide in an essay contest titled "Lincoln and a New Birth of Freedom." Her essay, "A New Country, a New Century, a New Freedom" earned her grand prize honors. The contest was held to commemorate the opening of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. Mihan, a 17-year-old, second-generation Korean-American, read her award-winning prose during the dedication ceremony.

Although Mihan's essay was not specifically about President Lincoln, she captured his message of freedom and courage in a story about her great-grandfather, who lived in Korea under Japanese colonization.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Mihan Lee and wish her continued success in the years ahead. I submit her essay for the RECORD.

A NEW COUNTRY, A NEW CENTURY, A NEW
FREEDOM

My understanding of freedom is inextricably tied up with my understanding of language. My great-grandfather, in 1940s Korea, was arrested for putting together the first Korean dictionary, when the language had been banned by the Japanese government. My great-grandfather believed that words, the medium by which we formulate and share ideas, can bind and break the very ideas they express if the language is that of an oppressor. He fought for the freedom of his people to express ideas in their own words; in so doing, he defended their very right to have ideas.

As I prepare for all the freedoms and responsibilities of adulthood, I remember these definitions of freedom I have inherited, and strive to make ones of my own—not only as the first generation of my family born in a new country, but also as an American youth at the birth of a new century. Sitting in the hall between classes, my friends and I discuss the faults of our school's administration, the right to same-sex marriage, the justification for the Iraq War. We feel it is our right to know and evaluate our surroundings, to speak and have our ideas responded to.

I believe that freedom in the 21st century means the liberty of individuals, regardless of age, race, gender, or class, to express themselves in their own words, and to use those words to shape history. We celebrate it, and yet we never stop fighting for it. I am Korean-American, I am young, and I am free. I speak—not always articulate, not often right, but always in my own words. I speak, and I listen.

LETTER TO PRESIDENT BUSH REGARDING
LUIS POSADA
CARRILES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today 20 Representatives sent to President Bush the following letter regarding the asylum application of terrorist Luis Posada Carriles and the extradition request from Venezuela:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are writing to urge you to oppose the application for asylum by Luis Posada Carriles, and to support the request for extradition to Venezuela, where he is a fugitive from justice.

Posada, a CIA-trained Cuban exile, is one of only two prime suspects in the bombing of a Cuban civilian airliner, which killed all 73 people onboard on October 6, 1976, according to FBI investigators and declassified documents. The plane had originated in Caracas and was bound for Cuba, with a stop in Barbados. The bomb went off as the plane was leaving Barbados.

In addition to the Cuban airline bombing, Posada is implicated in an act of terrorism that took place on American soil, here in Washington, DC. On September 21, 1976 former Chilean government minister Orlando Letelier and his American associate, Ronni Moffit, were killed by a car bomb near Sheridan Circle. The bombing was one of the worst acts of foreign terrorism on American soil to that date.

Carter Cornick, a retired counterterrorism specialist for the FBI who worked on the Letelier case, said in an interview that both the airline bombing and the Letelier bombing were planned at a June 1976 meeting in Santo Domingo attended by Posada in addition to others. Mr. Cornick said that Posada was involved "up to his eyeballs" in planning the attacks. At the time of the bombings, Venezuelan police found maps and other evidence in Posada's Venezuelan home that tied him to the terrorist acts. Furthermore, a recently declassified 1976 F.B.I. document confirms Posada's presence at two meetings in the Anauco Hilton Hotel in Caracas where the airline bombing was planned.

Posada, a dual citizen of Venezuela and Cuba, and a former Venezuelan intelligence agent, was jailed in Venezuela for the airline bombing, but then escaped from prison in 1985 while awaiting trial.